april 3-2003 Dear USDA. these quis line from R. CALF-USA. for your COOL regulation.

Hapgood Ranch APR 18 2003

"The United States should use its authority to either require that imported animals be marked with their country of origin, or that existing import documentation be kept with all imported animals until slaughter.

The rules adopted by USDA should establish that an animal not marked with foreign markings (ear tag, tattoo, or brand), or not accompanied by required import documentation is declared to be an animal born and raised in the United States and eligible for the USA label.

This rule would remove any burden upon United States cattle producers who do not handle imported cattle; and it would keep the cost of COOL to a minimum for producers, processors, retailers, and ultimately the consumers.

Send comments under your name by April 9 to:
Country Of Origin Labeling Program
Agriculture Marketing Service, USDA
Stop 0249, Room 2092-S
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-0249
or FAX 202-720-3499 or e-mail: www.ams.usda.gov/cool

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